

splenic flexure of the colon. There were some old adhesive bands of its mesentery which were probably accountable for the condition.

During convalescence, which commenced well, insomnia followed by acute mania set in, and death ensued. He was unable to explain the cause of the mania, unless due to the absorption of toxins. There was not sufficient iodoform to account for it.

Dr. Gardner, of Montreal; and H. P. Wright, of Ottawa, discussed the paper.

A child with a deformity of the auricle of the ear and an imperforate external meatus was shown by Dr. Proudfoot of Montreal. He said he proposed operating to relieve the conditions.

Dr. R. Ferguson, of London, read a paper on Ophthalmia Neonatorum. The points dwelt upon by the essayist were : The great prevalence of blindness due to this preventable disease ; the prophylaxis by treatment of the gonorrhoea of mother, and the immediate treatment of the eyes of the newborn by aseptic and antiseptic cleansing. He dwelt at length on the treatment of the disease when once established. Frequent cleansing from a fountain syringe, suspended two feet above the head was of the greatest value. A tuft of absorbent tied over the mouth of the nozzle would serve as a filter and break the force of the current, allowing the stream to flow gently upon the eyeball. The nurse should rest the infant on her lap upon its back, holding the hands and steadying the head which is allowed to droop slightly over a basin which catches the water as it flows from the child's head. A quart of water should be used to thoroughly flush out all the secretion. Wipes of lint or cotton should never be employed for this purpose. The treatment may be necessary every two hours, if the discharge is free and purulent. Boracic acid was probably the best solution to use.

The matter of cold and hot compresses was also discussed, and the use of nitrate of silver. He advocated that this should be placed on the list of contagious diseases. A resolution to this effect was made, to be forwarded to the different Provincial Boards of Health, and unanimously carried.

Dr. T. T. S. Harrison, of Selkirk, Ont., read a paper on "Some Observations on the Heredity of Cancer." It consisted in the report of several cases occurring in a family during three generations.

The question which arose in his mind was : whether the cancer cells in cases of recurrence lay dormant until aroused into activity some years after by an irritant, or whether merely the tendency was hereditary.

Sir William Hingston, Drs. W. Mills, Christie, Dickson, Moore and Wright discussed the paper.

Dr. Thorburn, president, then delivered his annual